trial Policy anncunced by the Government this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Seven distilleries are functioning in the State with total distillation capacity of 439.10 lakh litres (both for Industrial and potable Alcohol).

(b) None, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

Withdrawal of Benefits of Subsidised Foods to Higher Income Groups

4938. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose withdraw the benefits of subsidised food through the Public Distribution System to higher income groups;

(b) if so, the reasons and justification thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to enlarge its scope upto Income Tax payers only;

(d) whether such a step of the Union Government will encourage blackmarketing etc; and

(e) if so, further reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). Does not arise.

Parity for Small Scale Sector with the Corporate Sector

4939. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Small Industries have demanded parity for the Small Scale Sector with the Corporate Sector; and

(b) if so, the details therefor and the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) and (b). The Small Scale Sector though widely dispersed and unorganised have to compete with other Medium and Large Scale Sector. The Small Scale Sector has therefore, been given preferential treatment rather than parity. The new Policy Measures for Promoting and Strengthening Small, Tiny and Village Enterprises announced in the Parliament on 6th August, 1991 give added strength to this sector.

[*Translation*]

Scooters India Ltd.

4940. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the interest on deposits have not been paid by the Scooters India Ltd., Lucknow to the persons who have cancelled their bookings for Lambretta Cento;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Government propose to issue directions in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) and (b). All refunds against cancellation are made by Scooters India Ltd. (SIL) as per conditions stipulated for booking of Lambretta Cento. Interest is payable only by adjustment at the time of collection of vehicle by the customer. In case of cancellation no interest accrues.

(c) No, Sir.

[*English*]

Women Employees in Public Sector Enterprises

4941. SHRI P. P. KALIAPERUMAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of women employees out of the total strength of employees in Public Sector Enterprises group-wise; and

(b) the group-wise strength of employees in various Public Sector Enterprises?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) and (b). Recruitment in Public Sector Enterprises are made by the respective Managements on need basis and no differentiation is made between male and female employees either at the item of recruitment or for providing other facilities. As all women officers are treated at par with their male counterparts, no segregation of employees is made on sex basis and no data is maintained exclusively for the women employees.

A statement showing group-wise strength of employees in public enterprises is enclosed.